

REMARKS

The Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of this Application in view of the following remarks. The Applicant originally submitted Claims 61-110, which are currently pending in the Application.

Formal Matters

The Examiner has indicated that Claims 61-110 would be allowable provided that the claims submitted in the Preliminary Amendment mailed October 27, 1999 be underlined to comply with 37 CRR 1.173(d). In accordance therewith, the Applicant have underlined the claims added to the reissue as set forth below.

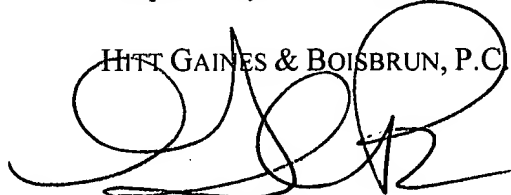
Conclusion

In view of the foregoing remarks, the Applicant now sees all of the claims currently pending in this Application to be in condition for allowance and therefore earnestly solicit a Notice of Allowance for Claims 61-110. The Applicant attaches hereto a marked-up version of the amendments previously made to the claims. The attached page is captioned "**VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE**".

The Applicant requests the Examiner to telephone the undersigned attorney of record at 972-480-8800 if such would further or expedite the prosecution of the present Application.

Respectfully submitted,

HITT GAINES & BOISBRUN, P.C.

A large, stylized handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. Boisbrun', is written over the printed name and firm name.

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Dated: 11/21/01

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VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-60 were canceled in the Preliminary Amendment without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 61-110 were added in the Preliminary Amendment as follows:

31 61.¹¹ A method of operating a power converter, comprising:
providing a power transformer having a plurality of windings;
limiting a voltage across at least one of said plurality of windings with a clamping circuit
during a clamping interval of said power converter; and
rectifying said voltage with a synchronous rectification device having a control terminal
responsive to a signal across at least one of said plurality of windings such that said synchronous
rectification device is active for substantially all of said clamping interval.

62.¹² The method as claimed in claim ~~61~~¹¹ wherein said clamping circuit is directly
connected to said power transformer.

63.¹³ The method as claimed in claim ~~61~~¹¹ wherein said clamping circuit is coupled to a
primary winding of said power transformer.

64.¹⁴ The method as claimed in claim ~~61~~¹¹ wherein said power transformer has a center-tapped secondary winding.

65.¹⁵ The method as claimed in claim ~~61~~¹¹ further comprising connecting a primary winding of said power transformer to an input of said power converter during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

66.¹⁶ The method as claimed in claim ~~61~~¹¹ further comprising a further synchronous rectification device, coupled to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

67.¹⁷ The method as claimed in claim ~~61~~¹¹ further comprising a rectification device, coupled to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

68.¹⁸ The method as claimed in claim ~~61~~¹¹ wherein said clamping circuit comprises a switching device connected in series with a capacitor.

69.¹⁹ The method as claimed in claim ~~68~~¹⁸ further comprising controlling said switching device with a control circuit.

70.²⁰ The method as claimed in claim ~~61~~¹¹ wherein said power converter operates in one of:
a forward mode,
a flyback mode, and

a forward/flyback mode.

21
71. A method of operating a power converter, comprising:
providing a power transformer having a plurality of windings;
coupling a synchronous rectification device, having a control terminal, to at least one of said
plurality of windings;
coupling a clamping circuit to said at least one of said plurality of windings; and
limiting a voltage applied to said control terminal with said clamping circuit such that said
synchronous rectification device is active for substantially all of a clamping interval.

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72. The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein said clamping circuit is directly
connected to said power transformer.

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73. The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein said clamping circuit is coupled to a
primary winding of said power transformer.

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74. The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein said power transformer has a center-
tapped secondary winding.

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75. The method as claimed in claim 21 further comprising connecting a primary winding
of said power transformer to an input of said power converter during a first cyclic interval of said
power converter.

26. ²⁶ The method as claimed in claim 21 further comprising a further synchronous rectification device, coupled to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

27. ²⁷ The method as claimed in claim 21 further comprising a rectification device, coupled to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

28. ²⁸ The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein said clamping circuit comprises a switching device connected in series with a capacitor.

29. ²⁹ The method as claimed in claim 28 further comprising controlling said switching device with a control circuit.

30. ³⁰ The method as claimed in claim 21 wherein said power converter operates in one of:
a forward mode,
a flyback mode, and
a forward/flyback mode.

31. ³¹ A method of operating a power converter, comprising:
providing a power transformer having a plurality of windings;
coupling a synchronous rectification device, having a control terminal, to at least one of said
plurality of windings;

coupling a clamping circuit to said at least one of said plurality of windings; and
limiting a voltage applied to said control terminal with said clamping circuit such that said
synchronous rectification device conducts a load current for substantially all of a clamping interval.

³²
~~82.~~ The method as claimed in claim ³¹81 wherein said clamping circuit is directly
connected to said power transformer.

³³
~~83.~~ The method as claimed in claim ³¹81 wherein said clamping circuit is coupled to a
primary winding of said power transformer.

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~~84.~~ The method as claimed in claim ³¹81 wherein said power transformer has a center-
tapped secondary winding.

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³⁵
~~85.~~ The method as claimed in claim ³¹81 further comprising connecting a primary winding
of said power transformer to an input of said power converter during a first cyclic interval of said
power converter.

³⁶
~~86.~~ The method as claimed in claim ³¹81 further comprising a further synchronous
rectification device, coupled to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of
said power converter.

³⁷
~~87.~~ The method as claimed in claim ³¹81 further comprising a rectification device, coupled
to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

13

³⁸
~~88~~ ³¹ The method as claimed in claim ~~81~~ wherein said clamping circuit comprises a switching device connected in series with a capacitor.

³⁹
~~89~~ ³⁸ The method as claimed in claim ~~88~~ further comprising controlling said switching device with a control circuit.

⁴⁰
~~90~~ ³¹ The method as claimed in claim ~~81~~ wherein said power converter operates in one of:
a forward mode,
a flyback mode, and
a forward/flyback mode.

⁴¹
~~91~~ A method of operating a power converter, comprising:
providing a power transformer having a plurality of windings;
coupling a synchronous rectification device, having a control terminal responsive to a drive signal, to at least one of said plurality of windings;
coupling a clamping circuit to said at least one of said plurality of windings; and
limiting said drive signal applied to said control terminal with said clamping circuit such that said drive signal is continuous for substantially all of a clamping interval.

⁴²
~~92~~ ⁴¹ The method as claimed in claim ~~91~~ wherein said clamping circuit is directly connected to said power transformer.

⁴³
93. The method as claimed in claim ⁴¹91 wherein said clamping circuit is coupled to a primary winding of said power transformer.

⁴⁴
94. The method as claimed in claim ⁴¹91 wherein said power transformer has a center-tapped secondary winding.

⁴⁵
95. The method as claimed in claim ⁴¹91 further comprising connecting a primary winding of said power transformer to an input of said power converter during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

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cont.
⁴⁶
96. The method as claimed in claim ⁴¹91 further comprising a further synchronous rectification device, coupled to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

⁴⁷
97. The method as claimed in claim ⁴¹91 further comprising a rectification device, coupled to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

⁴⁸
98. The method as claimed in claim ⁴¹91 wherein said clamping circuit comprises a switching device connected in series with a capacitor.

⁴⁹
99. The method as claimed in claim ⁴⁸98 further comprising controlling said switching device with a control circuit.

⁵⁰
100. The method as claimed in claim ⁴¹91 wherein said power converter operates in one of:
a forward mode,
a flyback mode, and
a forward/flyback mode.

⁵¹
101. A method of operating a power converter, comprising:
accepting a DC voltage at an input of said power converter;
providing current to a load coupled to an output of said power converter;
transforming a voltage from said input to said output with a power transformer having at least
one primary winding and at least one secondary winding;
periodically connecting said input to said at least one primary winding during a first cyclic
interval of said power converter;
limiting said voltage across said at least one secondary winding with a clamping circuit
during a clamping interval of said power converter; and
rectifying said voltage with a synchronous rectification device having a control terminal
responsive to a signal across said at least one secondary winding such that said synchronous
rectification device is active for substantially all of said clamping interval.

⁵²
102. The method as claimed in claim ⁵¹101 wherein said clamping circuit is directly
connected to said power transformer.

⁵³
103. The method as claimed in claim ⁵¹101 wherein said clamping circuit is coupled to said
at least one primary winding of said power transformer.

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~~104.~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~101~~⁵¹ wherein said at least one secondary winding has
a center-tap.

⁵⁵
~~105.~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~101~~⁵¹ further comprising a voltage limiting device
coupled to said synchronous rectification device.

⁵⁶
~~106.~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~101~~⁵¹ further comprising a further synchronous
rectification device, coupled to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of
said power converter.

⁵⁷
~~107.~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~101~~⁵¹ further comprising a rectification device, coupled
to said power transformer, that is active during a first cyclic interval of said power converter.

⁵⁸
~~108.~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~101~~⁵¹ wherein said clamping circuit comprises a
switching device connected in series with a capacitor.

⁵⁹
~~109.~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~108~~⁵⁸ further comprising controlling said switching
device with a control circuit.

⁶⁰
~~110.~~ The method as claimed in claim ~~101~~⁵¹ wherein said power converter operates in one

of:

a forward mode,

a flyback mode, and

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cont.

a-forward/flyback mode.

18